

Remarks

Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 24-26, 28-30 and 32-47 are pending for the Examiner's consideration.

Information Disclosure Statement

A first Information Disclosure Statement was filed on October 2, 2003. The Examiner has initialed all cited references except reference BH, and returned to Applicants a copy of the Form PTO-1449. Applicants request that the Examiner return another copy of the Form PTO-1449 with reference BH initialed.

Claim Rejections

In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 8, 9, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 24-26, 28-30 and 32-47 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-55 of U.S. Patent No. 6,638,319, unpatentable over claims 1-37 of U.S. Patent No. 6,645,255, and unpatentable over claims 1-55 of U.S. Patent No. 6,645,256.

In response, enclosed herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer.

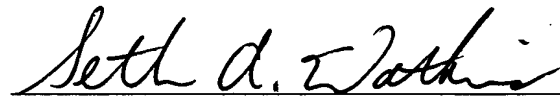
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all the pending claims are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. If the Examiner does not agree, then a personal or telephonic interview is respectfully requested to discuss any remaining issues so as to expedite the eventual allowance of the claims.

A Petition for Extension of Time is submitted concurrently herewith. Should any additional fees be required, please charge such fees to Collier Shannon Scott, PLLC Deposit Account No. 03-2469.

Date: January 5, 2005

Respectfully Submitted,



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Enclosures